

BRICE -- Appln. No.: 09/596,081

See the attached Appendix for the changes made to effect the above paragraph.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Kindly enter the following amended claim:

2. (Amended) A toothbrush comprising:

an elongated handle, shaped and dimensioned to be grasped by a human hand, having a first end and a second end, said elongated handle having a cavity open at a location where, when the elongated handle is grasped for using the toothbrush, the thumb of the human hand would normally contact;

a resilient thumb contact structure inserted in said cavity, dimensioned such that the human thumb, when the elongated handle is grasped for using the toothbrush, exerts the thumb pressing force primarily on the resilient thumb contact;

a first neck extending from the second end of the elongated handle, having a proximal end attached to the elongated handle and having a distal end;

a second neck extending from the second end of the elongated handle, having a proximal end attached to the elongated handle and having a distal end;

a first bristle support attached to the distal end of the first neck;

a second bristle support attached to the distal end of the second neck;

a plurality of first bristles extending in a first direction from the first bristle support; and

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a plurality of second bristles extending in a second direction from the second bristle support.

See the attached Appendix for the changes made to effect the above claim.

Kindly add the following new claims:

- 3. (New) The toothbrush of claim 2, wherein the second neck extends from the second end of the elongated handle parallel to the first neck.
4. (New) The toothbrush of claim 2, wherein the plurality of second bristles extend from the second bristle support in a direction substantially parallel to the plurality of first bristles.
5. (New) The toothbrush of claim 2, wherein the plurality of first and second bristles are formed of a material having a first stiffness.
6. (New) The toothbrush of claim 2, wherein the a resilient thumb contact structure includes an oval-shaped resilient thumb contact structure.
7. (New) The toothbrush of claim 6, wherein the cavity of the elongated handle includes an oval-shaped cavity.
8. (New) The toothbrush of claim 2, wherein the a resilient thumb contact structure includes a rectangular-shaped resilient thumb contact structure.

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9. (New) The toothbrush of claim 8, wherein the cavity of the elongated handle includes a rectangular-shaped cavity.--